

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-8, and 10-14 are pending in the present application. Claims 12-14 have been amended. Claims 1, 4, 8, and 10 are independent claims. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his rejections in view of the Amendments and the following Remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 1, 3, 4, 6-8, 10, and 11 are allowed. Furthermore, the Examiner indicated that claims 12-14 would be allowable if they were amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph, and to include the features of their base claims and any intervening claims.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejection

Claims 12-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph, as being indefinite because they are dependent on canceled claims. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 12-14 have been amended so that they now depend on presently pending claims 1, 4, and 9, respectively. In view of these amendments, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this rejection.

Conclusion

In view of the above Amendments and Remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Thus, the Examiner is respectfully requested to issue a Notice of Allowance in the present application.

Should the Examiner believe that any outstanding matters remain in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Jason W. Rhodes (Reg. No. 47,305) at the telephone number of the undersigned to discuss the present application in an effort to expedite prosecution.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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